



# Hatched



👁 372 ✓ 32 ★ 39

## Chapter 1 by .l.a.

It started out on a rainy day, back in 7th grade. I got a package in the mail, but it was empty. It appeared to be empty, at least. When I dug through the endless pile of packing peanuts, I found a box, made of red velvet. I slowly opened it, since it seemed delicate.

Inside, I found an egg. It was small, and light pink with blue polka dots. Its pattern exactly matched my favorite jacket.

I picked it up, slowly and delicately, and I heard a small crack come from the other side, even though I was barely holding it. The egg was hatching.

I watched it crack, waiting to see a cute chick or duckling poke its head from the shell, but instead I got a nasty surprise. It was like on April fool's day, when the "harmless" prank someone pulled on you turns into something terrible.

Coming out of the egg was a bird, with wings as black as the night sky, and shiny as new armor. When it turned its head toward me, I realized I made a huge mistake. Its eyes were gleaming red and its beak grinned at me. He spread his wings to a massive span of five feet, and dove at me. In

just a moment, all hell broke loose, and I now had my very own pet demon.

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Chapter 2 by nighteye

I did the only reasonable thing.

Screamed.

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Yes, a giant evil bird-demon was dive-bombing me, and I just stood there and screamed. I got lucky.

Just before that gleaming black beak was about to seriously damage my eyes, the thing pulled up and flipped over, landing in front of me with a smug expression.

Yes. Evil bird-things can look smug.

"You sing so beautifully," said a voice in my head.

"What- Where are you!?" I said, whirling around.

"Other side."

"Wait- you can talk?"

"Yes, I can talk, idiot."

And of course, it's rude, too.

"I can hear that."

This already sucks.

"Hi. I'm your friendly pet demon, delivered by Amazon Prime in just under three business days!"

"Hold on there, buddy. Pet?"

"We're gonna have soooo much fun, 'Owner,'" it grinned.

### Chapter 3 by Lex



Again I was still shocked

"W-wait...what!? A pet demon? Amazon Prime? I didn't order any demon pets!"

He tucked away his wings and perched on my mail box and grinned with its midnight beak, its onyx feathers shimmering in the dimming sunlight, it was nearly dusk.

"Yes you did. You ordered an egg from Amazon, and that's me! I am Phalaryx your new pet and guardian."

I stared at him with a blank expression. I ordered that egg off of Amazon for a school project...I didn't expect it to hatch a demon bird.

Chapter 4 by Draeve

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Oh but of course it was my luck... with my luck the next egg I order will be a dinosaur one...

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"No. Do not even think of it. I am your guardian and I will protect you alone!" Phalaryx hissed, his ruby red eyes flashing, his forked tongue flashing in and out, tasting the air, and his

body tensed, as if prepared to fight to get rid of my idea.

"Fine, fine...." I grumbled, not wanting to already get on the bad side of my demon. But, I have a streak of poor ownership. My 17 pet fishes all died before I was even 8, my hamster got snatched by a crow when it was scabbering around in the backyard when I was 10, my dog ran away when I accidentally left the front door open, and got hit by a truck when I was 13.

So I pretty much gave on the idea of pets at all.

"Oh, but I'm much more smarter than those petty beasts." Phalaryx hissed out, comfortably perched on my mailbox. Startled at him reading my mind, I whipped my head to look at him, my eyes wide open.

"Oh please. I didn't read your mind. You merely spoke your mind, not even knowing you were doing it. Silly human." With its own version of snickering.

Tilting his head, Phalaryx asked, "Well? You going to go inside or not?" Nodding my response, I turned and started my way into the house. Yelping when I felt something slip under my shirt, on my back, I quickly realized that it was just Phalaryx.

Clearing my throat, I scolded him slightly. "Give a man a warning when you do that. Seriously."

Phalaryx rolled his eyes. "Oh please. You're barely a man. What are you, 14?" Eyeing my body, trying to figure out how old I was. "Oi! I'm 16! Well, I'm almost 16, my birthday is next month." Grinning at the thought of my birthday and the car I'm getting.

Forgetting all about the demon on my shoulder, I headed into the house, taking off my shoes before heading into the kitchen. Seeing my mum making cookies, I licked my lips before reaching my finger into the cookie mix, quickly snatching my finger out of the mix before my mum could notice.

Well, at least before she could catch my finger with the cookie mix. When she saw my index

finger with that giant glob of cookie mix, she whipped her head back at me, preparing her tongue for the "Do not eat raw" warning the creature that has made its way onto my shoulder.

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Phalaryx was still squirming, trying to find a comfortable position to lie in, when he felt my mother's gaze on him. Opening his eye, he greeted her casually. "Hello." And closed it, before opening it again, reaching forward, and licking her cheek.

Mum still frozen, "What's wrong, mum?" I asked worriedly, poking her nose lightly. But, that seemed to be the wrong thing to do, since the moment I did that, mum fell down in a faint.

### Chapter 5 by Amity



"Oh..." I murmured, realizing that Phalaryx was the thing that made her faint.

"So, do you normally lick peoples faces to get them to faint?" I asked Phalaryx, Moving forward to help Mum up.

"No, usually they faint before i lick them." He commented, opening one eye to examine my Mum. Wow. The look of pure terror on her face was surreal. I was almost proud of Phalaryx.

"Why, thank you." He said, purring contently from my shoulder.

"I said 'almost'" I commented, remembering that he could hear my thoughts. "Anyway, why don't you go and sleep in my room while I try and convince Mum she's not seeing things." I told him, and he left, but not before saying,

"Technically, i am a 'thing', and she did see me, so..." I shook my head, and sat my Mum up against the counter. Slowly, her eyes fluttered open.

"Hey, mum. How you feeling?" I said soothingly.

"What. Was. That?" She yelled at me, narrowing her eyes.

SO, how do I explain to mum that Amazon Prime sent me a demon-bird-pet?

Lets see...

### Chapter 6 by Draeve



'I am NOT a demon-bird-pet as you put it! I am a Colovrus! One of the most powerful kinds of guardians in the universe!' I heard Phalaryx huff in my mind. Startled, I jumped, I thought back 'Fine. Just go to my room. I can see you over there, on the stair railing. Thought you'll be more subtle than that, being one of the most powerful guardians of the universe!' Sarcasm clear despite my inexperience in telepathy.

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you had to have an example, and it's like, half of my mark? Yeah, I did it on a raven, and I ordered a realistic looking bird being sold by some guy who found it in his backyard on Amazon, so then after approximately... 2 days and 17 hours, it arrived today, and I was expecting that egg, but when I opened it outside, the egg just hatched! He's called Pharlaryx, and he's supposed to be a guardian of sorts, a powerful one called a Colovrus..."

Taking a breath, I continued on rapidly before mum could interrupt.

"I have no idea why it actually hatched! The guy said that he already checked with vets, and they said that the egg was unstable and couldn't be hatched even if they tried with the most recent technology. But they just thought it was just like, a mutant robin's egg, because of the pollution nowadays, it's not that uncommon. It was just for a school project! I swear! Mum!

At mum's still narrowed eyes, I begged her to believe me. "Really! Would I purposely buy a demon bird as a pet that's so obnoxious already! You gotta believe me, mum! I won't steal any more cookies if you do!"

At this, she calmed down slightly, knowing how much I loved the cookies since she literally had to make my dad and siblings to hold me down whenever she was making cookies and had to keep a constant watch on them.

Nodding stiffly, mum went back to her cookie dough, face passive. "Alright."

I gaped at her reaction. What? Mum was accepting Pharlaryx that easily? What just happened? "What?"

She looked at me with sad eyes. "Go get the book behind my bedstand, the code is 1578. Read it. And hide your guardian in your room, your brothers and sister will be home any moment.

I winced at the thought of my siblings. Conner is 10 years old, obsessed with dinosaurs, Liam and Nicole are 14 years old, Liam the jock and Nicole the studious know-it-all.

Following mum's instructions, I looked behind the bedstand, having the use all my strength to push it from the wall before realising that there was a rubber-tipped crowbar in the first drawer. Behind, was a safe, and as my curiosity nearly exploding from the suspense,

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Inside was a small book, some old looking antiques, a couple of rik-raks, a pistol at the back of it. Sucking in a breath, I didn't know my mother even knew how to hold a gun, let alone own one. And there were loaded chambers beside it too! Shaking these thoughts free of my mind, I reach for the small book by the corner.

I tucked it under my arm securely and headed to my room down the hall. Locking my door, I stared at the Colovrus on my bed, his tail twitching back and forth, staring right back at me.

Sighing, I sat down on the edge of my bed and opened the book. Gesturing for the little beast to sit on my shoulder. A small smile (somehow) on his face, he flew up and sat on my head, patting my hair down in some places, and make a makeshift bed for him. My left eye twitched. This only proved what my friends and family told me, that my hair was a nest that even a rat would be ashamed to call home. Guess a demon bird would gladly call it home.

"Colovrus. Not demon bird." Pharlaryx corrected slyly, though mumbling into my scalp. "And wash your hair. It smells like you wash your hair with dandelion faeces. Worse than solid waste." Feeling his beak somehow scrunch up.

"Fine. Now shut up. I'm reading."

"No you're not. You're staring at the page."

I ignored him, and began reading the small crinkly book in my hands.

## Chapter 7 by joshua derozan



To my suprise, the book was all about Colovruss'! I skimmed through the book and saw a picture of the demon bird still building a nest in my head. 'Colovrus. Not demon bird. If i am to be your pet demon, please get my race right and do not confuse me with a 'demon bird'. 'What ever'. I started to read the book. The book just talked about useless stuff like how they shed almost everyday and always want to be around their owners. But there was one particular chapter about how they have special powers to protect and serve their owners. The book said- "You

could ask me about my powers if you would but now said I tucked my eyes to the bird's comment and read the book. It said "These birds are not like other birds, they reach up to a flying speed of 900 mph. You can learn more only if trained. Although they are very difficult to train, training them would be worth it."

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They were right about the difficult part. The bird pecked me in the head. "OUCH!" I said in a screeching pain. "I heard that" the bird said while putting sticks in my head for a nest. Which where he got them from, only god knows. I look at the rest of the book. It wasn't important in anyway, so I skimmed through the rest, the only thing it talked about how that training might not end well sometimes. "Don't worry about that part" said the bird acting like he knows what he is talking about. He probably hasn't trained his whole life, which he hasn't since he was literally born this morning. The bird obviously didn't know what he was talking about, so I ignored him. I stood up shaking the bird off my head. "HEY! I WASN'T DONE WITH MY NEST" the bird said squawking and flying around the room, somehow gracefully landing on my desk lamp.

"So, shall we get to training".

"Wait just like that, I mean come on man I just hatched from my egg".

"Right, OK, so what do you want to do".

"Again just hatched from my egg".

"Alright well, you can't be seen by the world, and at night most stuff are closed and don't allow pets so....".

"One thing the book didn't mention was that, I can travel to.....drum role please..... THE DEMON WORLD!"

I looked at the bird horrified of the thought of so many demons in one place. "It's not what you think it is, believe it or not, but demons are exactly like humans. The only reason humans and demons couldn't co-exist is because most of the human race didn't expect that they were demons among them they were scared and disgusted with us, but we found an un-claimed dimension and found a way to live there". I thought about it for a bit and I finally answered the bird "OK let's go to the demon world"

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